" (*d*) Three amins could not be absorbed as one of them died, another retired and the third one left the service with a gratuity."

SRI M. DHARMALINGAM :—" Sir, may I know from the Hon. Minister whether when they are restored to service they are being given the old salary with the increments accrued and if not will Government consider that and do that? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Sir, peons are being paid at Rs. 18—1—25 plus usual dearness allowance and the amins are paid Rs. 24—1—32 plus dearness allowance."

SRI M. DHARMALINGAM :—" I put a specific question to the Hon. Minister, Sir, whether the peons and amins absorbed in other department on account of the abolition of the estate courts are being given their old salary? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" This is the rate which I have furnished and the hon. Member can easily compare."

Erosion of the banks of Vellur river.

* 2023 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there has been land erosion on both banks of the Vellur river near Karimkuzhi Bridge in Payyanur Firka, North Malabar, resulting in damage to paddy fields; and

(*b*) if so, the preventive measures taken by the Government in the matter?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) It has been proposed to protect the banks from erosion by rough stone pitching or by encouraging nanal plantations. This proposal is included in the scheme for straightening the course of the river and shifting the bridge on the Payyanur-Padiotchal road northward to mile 3/0 of the road where the river is to be straightened and will be carried out along with it in due course."

Governor's tour in the Laccadives and Minicoy Islands.

* 2024 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) the expenditure incurred for the tour undertaken by the Governor in the month of December 1954 in the Laccadives;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Union Jack was found flying in the Minicoy Islands during the visit of the Governor; and if so, the reasons therefor; and